

**Abstract**

A picture processing apparatus for generating an output picture signal with higher quality than the input picture signal. A first signal processor has a storage device for storing a picture signal with the same quality as the output picture signal. The input picture signal and the stored picture signal are added to generate a first picture signal with higher quality than the input picture, which is stored in the storage device. A second signal processor performs a class categorizing adaptive process by extracting a feature of the input picture signal corresponding to the position of a considered pixel of the output picture signal, categorizing the considered pixel as one of a plurality of classes corresponding to the feature, and calculating the input picture signal using a predetermined calculating method corresponding to the categorized class, thereby generating a second picture signal with higher quality than the input picture signal. One of the first and second picture signals is selected as the output picture signal